

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 2219 - SB 2256**

February 21, 2022

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Decreases, from 100 percent to 70 percent, the permanent disability threshold that effectively entitles a veteran to a 50 percent discount for camping and overnight cabin lodging at state parks.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Decrease State Revenue - \$41,900/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years/State Parks Fund**

Assumptions:

- Currently, the Tennessee State Parks offer a discount for camping and overnight cabin lodging fees of at least 50 percent to veterans with a service-connected disability that is determined by the Veterans Administration to constitute a 100 percent permanent total disability.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Veterans Services, there are approximately 21,604 veterans who have a 100 percent total disability and approximately 32,853 veterans who have a 70 to 90 percent disability.
- This legislation will increase the number of eligible veterans for these discounts by 152 percent  $[(32,853 - 21,604) / 21,604]$ .
- Based on information provided by the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the total camping discounts provided to veterans with 100 percent service-connected disabilities was equal to \$19,832 in FY20-21.
- This legislation is estimated to result in a decrease in state revenue to the State Parks Fund of \$30,145  $(\$19,832 \times 152\%)$ .
- The current annual number of discounts provided to veterans for cabin and lodging fees is unknown.
- The average cabin fee is \$115 per night and \$120 for lodges, or an average of \$117.50.
- It is assumed that this legislation will result in an increase in 100 additional cabin and lodging discounts provided to veterans for cabins and lodging, resulting in a decrease in state revenue to the State Parks Fund of \$11,750  $(100 \text{ stays} \times \$117.50)$ .
- A total recurring decrease in state revenue to the State Parks Fund of \$41,895  $(\$30,145 + \$11,750)$ .

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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